

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 11, 2006 has been received and carefully reviewed. The preceding amendments and the following remarks form a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1-3 have been amended as to matters of form only. No new matter has been added or amendments made which narrow the scope of any claim terms. Accordingly, claims 1-3 are pending in this application and are submitted for consideration.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-3 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten to overcome rejections relating to form.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being allegedly indefinite. In particular, the terms "simple" and "sliding" were found to be unclear. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and submit that claims 1-3 comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Although the Applicants believe that claims 1-3 as originally filed are definite and that one of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand the claims and the terms "simple" and "sliding" after reviewing the present specification, Applicants have amended claims 1-3 to rephrase the claims in order to further prosecution on the merits.

In particular, the term "simple" was changed to "regular." Support for this amendment can be found, *inter alia*, at page 3, lines 1-10 of the specification. One skilled in the art will understand, after reviewing the present specification, that an

“irregular” shape may include jagged edges or the like that make it difficult to change the design of, and that a “regular” shape is not irregular (i.e., is “simple”), for example, a shape without jagged edges such as a rectangle that is easier to change the design of.

With respect to the term “sliding,” that term is used repeatedly throughout the specification and should be understood by one having ordinary skill in the art. Although Applicants believe unnecessary, the term “sliding” is replaced with “deforming” and “converting.” In Claim 3, the “means for sliding” was changed to “means for processing the image to convert,” which makes clearer, reference to the image processor 40 connected with the slide and unslide processors 41 and 42.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-3 comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicants therefore request that the rejection be withdrawn.


In view of the above, all objections and rejections have been sufficiently addressed. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and requests that claims 1-3 be allowed and this application passed to issue.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel’s Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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